

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 03120 110808Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 HA-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
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R 110613Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9446
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USNATO
USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 3120

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGSC: SOPN, PINS, IT, RO
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN MEDIA ON MORO MURDER, TERRORISM

1. SUMMARY: MURDER OF ALDO MORO WAS FEATURE STORY ON TV
NEW EVENING MAY 9 AND ALL DAILIES MORNING OF MAY 10 DEVOTED
EXTENSIVE COVERAGE--INCLUDING PHOTOGRAPHS--WHICH OLD-TIMERS
FIND UNPRECEDENTED. SCINTEIA COVERAGE ALSO INCLUDED TEXTS
OF CEAUSESCU TELEGRAMS OF CONDOLENCE TO PRESIDENT LEONE AND
TO LONGO AND BERLINGUER, BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF DECEASED'S CAREER,
ARTICLE ON LIVELY INDIGNATION THROUGHOUT ITALY AND UNSIGNED
EDITORIAL ENTITLED "A CRIMINAL ACT STRONGLY CONDEMNED BY
PUBLIC OPINION." END SUMMARY

2. BOTH TELEGRAMS STRIKE LAW AND ORDER NOTE. BESIDES
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EXPRESSING OFFICIAL, POPULAR AND PERSONAL CONDOLENCES,
THAT TO LEONE ALSO EXPRESSES FAITH IN SUPPRESSION OF
TERRORISM IN DEFENSE OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS AND LIBER-
TIES; WHILE THAT TO PCI REFERS TO MORO AS FRIEND OF RO-
MANIAN PEOPLE AND ROMANO-ITALIAN COOPERATION AND REAFFIRMS
PARTY SOLIDARITY IN PCI'S FIGHT TO SAVE CONSTITUTIONAL
ORDER.

3. EDITORIAL DEALS WITH BOTH ASPECTS OF CONCERN TO GOR: TERRORISM AND ITALY'S POLITICAL FUTURE SANS MORO. COMMENT ON ITALIAN SITUATION IS ESSENTIALLY ECHO OF PCI LINE AND FINAL PARAGRAPH--AFTER NOTING MORO'S ROLE IN APERTURA SINISTRA--EXPRESSES "CONVICTION" THAT DEMOCRATIC FORCES WILL MAINTAIN UNITY OF ACTION IN DEFENSE OF REPUBLICAN INSTITUTIONS, SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRATIC EVOLUTION. ALTHOUGH EDITORIAL HARSHLY CONDEMNS MORO MURDER AND ALL SUCH PRACTICES, CENTRAL PASSAGE ON TERRORISM RETREATS TO MORE SELECTIVE DENOUNCIATION OF "INDIVIDUAL ACTS OF TERRORISM" THAT ALLOWS SUITABLE DISCRETION IN DETERMINING WHICH ACTS FALL INTO CATEGORY THAT IS CONDEMNED AS "CONTRARY TO THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING CLASSES." HOWEVER, IN SPITE OF RETREAT TO MORE SELECTIVE AND TYPICALLY COMMUNIST FORMULATION, ELABORATE MEDIA ATTENTION TO THIS "ODIOUS CRIME" WHICH AT TIME IT WAS STILL ONLY ABDUCTION RATHER THAN MURDER-WAS TIED INTO BROADER CONDEMNATION OF "ANY ACTS OF TERRORISM" IN CONTEXT OF PLO RAMPAGE ON TEL AVIV-HAIFA HIGHWAY, SUGGESTS THAT GOR IN FACT CONDEMNS ALL ACTS OF TERRORISM NOT READILY CATEGORIZABLE AS GUERILLA WARFARE.

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